

The Official Newsletter
of the Georgia Council
of Probate Court Judges

2014 News

SUMMER EDITION

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The Gavel



**Pictures from CPCJ
Conference Inside!**

Editor

Director

Designer

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Greetings!

Attached you will find a letter to the

Judicial Council Meeting:

Weapons Carry Licenses:

Attorney General's Office about

Strategic Planning:

the final product to each of you in

staff attorney in the AG's office. It
does confirm Judge Susan Tate's

Georgia Probate Court Standard Forms:

modifications to the forms to con

Save the Dates:

Probate Court Day at State Capital

Prosecutors in Probate Courts:

From the Editor

in August for the certification train

and all of our officers do an incred



Hancock County Courthouse fire

District Reports

CPCJ District Nine Meets in Laurens County

to the probate courts as administrator, executor, or guardian. Also discussed was the firearms license legislation.

District Ten Probate Judges Meeting

Vice President of GCPCJ), Appling County Probate Judge Dianne Hallman, Effingham County Probate Judge

Pictured from left to right:
Judge Dianne Hallman (Appling Co.),
Clerk Susan Dobson (Effingham Co.),
Conservator John Barton (Statesboro),
Judge Tony Thompson (Candler Co.),
Judge Alice Padgett (Columbia Co.), Judge
Larry Threlkeld (Toombs Co.), Judge Beth
Mosley (Effingham Co.), Judge Don
Wilkes (Emanuel Co.),
Judge Darin McCoy (Evans Co.).



CPCJ District Ten, Eleven, and Fourteen Meets in Wayne County

Judge Tammy Thornton and Effingham County Probate Court Beth Mosley. Judge Thornton arranged for the



Probate Judges Conference, Regional and District Level Training

CPCJ Conference Pictures cont.

CPCJ Conference Pictures cont.



CPCJ Spring Banquet Pictures





**Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts**

PRESS RELEASE

Probate Judges Launch READY Campaign

Education – The Certificate Program is a great tool to combat the efforts by those who fear non-attorney judges have no judges through the certificate program and district training.

tiveness and efficiency every day. With a determined mindset, we will survive any and all challenges that lie ahead whether they are in Atlanta or at your local Board of Commissioner's Office.

ficient practices in our courts and our ability to successfully navigate and pass legislation that benefits the public and



**Judicial Council of Georgia
Administrative Office of the Courts**

PRESS RELEASE

**Statewide Campaign Spotlights Probate Court Judges'
Professionalism and Qualifications**

for probate judges' work by highlighting their proficiency and effectiveness, by providing a mechanism to Assemble judges quickly when important issues arise, and by reinforcing judges' Determination to administer efficient courts.

"We created the Georgia Probate Court Judge Certificate Program in collaboration with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government to help provide expert, cost- efficient service in all 159 counties in Georgia," he said.

certification. Certificate holders must complete an additional 12 hours of continuing judicial education every two years.



Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

PRESS RELEASE

Probate Court Judges Respond to Case Disposition Reporting Concerns

Atlanta, GA — In response to a state investigation into whether Georgia's judges or law enforcement officials have given the steps it has taken to ensure there is no "ticket fixing" in probate courts.

the proper disposition of traffic offenses in Georgia's probate courts. "The Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) data court judges," Daughtrey said. "But it reflects poor reporting by some to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, so the CPCJ will ensure all probate judges are properly trained and have the staff needed for reporting traffic offense dispositions. Additionally, we are continuing our legislative effort to have a prosecutor in every probate court that has traffic and criminal

judges," according to Daughtrey. "The CPCJ has met with the Judicial Qualifications Commission, has requested regional

Guardianships, Mobility and the National Probate Court Standards

truly define the number but a Bureau of Labor Statistic report from 2012 surveyed “young baby boomers” born

“Properly administering a guardianship/conservatorship system is difficult enough when the parties – the

respondent has moved. Interfamily conflict or attempts simply to thwart jurisdiction may occur less frequently, but still cause significant problems for probate courts. Guardians and family members, for example, may engage

UGAPPJA defines what state has primary jurisdiction to deter

Guardianships, Mobility and the National Probate Court Standards Cont.

“The five standards in this section make provisions for guardianships that cross state lines. Central to the pro

Judges may find it useful to review the full details of this report as well as the standards established at the

Plumbing Bonds & Miscellaneous Duties of the Probate Court (Updated from March 2004)

tioned contractors and licensed plumbers to file bonds with the Probate Court. There is no requirement for the Court to pursue the filings of such bonds, but requires us to accept and approve such bonds when filed in our office.”

“43-14-12. Suspension of, or refusal to restore, licenses and certificates by municipal or county inspection author

and qualified to write surety bonds in the State of Georgia and shall be approved by the judge of the probate

Ice Bucket Melt Down

The Judicial Qualifications Commission has told at least one Superior



items: 1) the prohibition from participation in charitable activities that would reflect negatively on impartiality or hamper duties and 2) the prohibition that judges cannot solicit funds for a charitable organization or use their office

In Our Thoughts

Judge Thomas Eugene “Gene” Lowery



Mr. Tommie Lawrence

Mr. Donald Howard Adams Sr

Rescue Department. He was one of the first paramedics with the department. He was also a member of the Nor

In Our Thoughts cont.

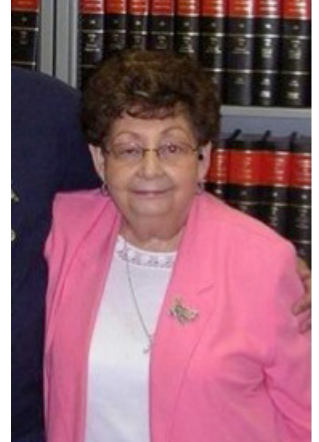
Cary Hopson

Cummings of Wilkinson County passed away in a tragic traffic accident on Monday March 24th.

Judge Joyce B. Jones

2011. Judge Jones began working in the Polk County Tax Assessors Office and was later his Clerk. Upon Judge Vincent's retirement Joyce was appointed to fill Roger's expiring term in office and she went on to serve an additional 21 years as the Probate Judge

Jones was "an Institution" in Polk County and to "her girls in the office she was not only



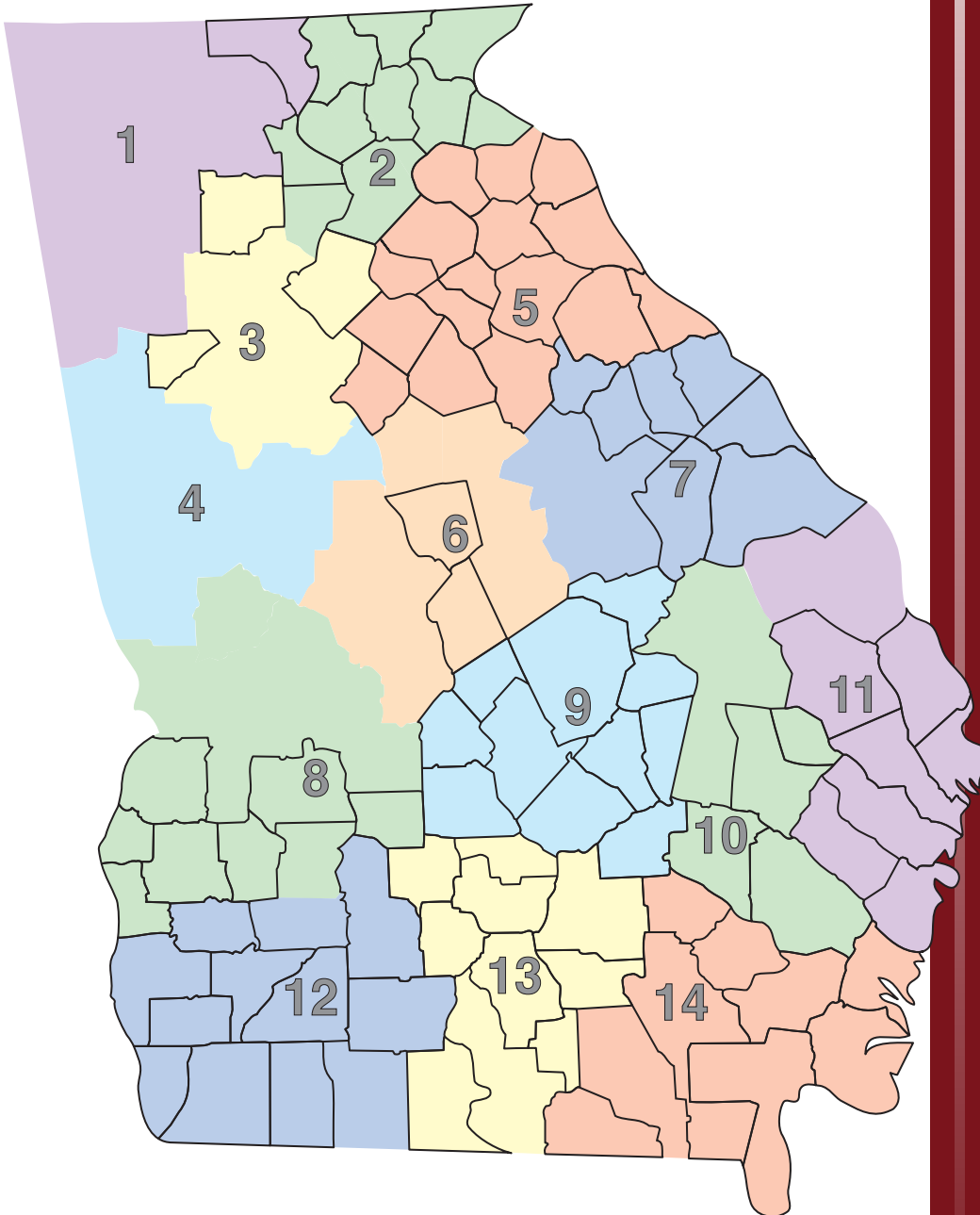
Dr. Lynwood D. Jordan, Sr.

Mr. Jordan was born December 6, 1916. He married Mary Grace Littlefield, of Woodruff, SC, in 1941. She preceded

He is survived by his daughter, Mary Lynn Lowe, and his son, Lynwood D. Jordan, Jr, five grandchildren and 14

CPCJ

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES



DISTRICT 1
JUDGE DEBORAH ANDERSEN

DISTRICT 2
JUDGE DWAIN BRACKETT

DISTRICT 3
JUDGE KELLY POWELL

DISTRICT 4
JUDGE KATHRYN MARTIN

DISTRICT 5
JUDGE SUSAN TATE

DISTRICT 6
JUDGE TODD BLACKWELL

DISTRICT 7
JUDGE LEE MOSS

DISTRICT 8
JUDGE ROONEY BOWEN III

DISTRICT 9
JUDGE TORI J. HUDSON

DISTRICT 10
JUDGE LARRY THRELKELD

DISTRICT 11
JUDGE BETH MOSLEY

DISTRICT 12
JUDGE AMOS SHEFFIELD

DISTRICT 13
JUDGE CHASE DAUGHTREY

DISTRICT 14
JUDGE CALVIN BENNETT

